

P23682.A09



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi NOMURA

Group Art Unit: 2851

Appln. No. : 10/646,872

Examiner: C. MAHONEY

Filed : August 25, 2003

For : A SUPPORTING STRUCTURE FOR SUPPORTING A ROTATABLE RING

#### **FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97-1.99, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements and Completions of Record that were previously filed, Applicant hereby calls the following to the Examiner's attention.

The following documents were all cited by the German Patent Office in reference to corresponding German Patent Application No. 103 39 399.4-51, and were identified in the Supplemental Completion of Record filed on August 2, 2005:

(1) Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 01-133014 A, which was published on May 25, 1989, together with an English language abstract of the same;

P23682.A09

- (2) German Patent Publication No. DE 42 26 967 A1, which was published on February 18, 1993. Applicant notes that this document is a patent family member of U.S. Patent No. 5,268,794, which issued to CHAN on August 7, 1992;
- (3) German Patent Publication No. DE 2 346 398, which was published on March 21, 1974. Applicant notes that this document is a patent family member of U.S. Patent No. 4,012,124, which issued to TODA et al. on March 15, 1977;
- 4) U.S. Patent No. 6,064,533 to KENIN et al., which issued on May 16, 2000. Applicant notes that this patent was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement.
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 6,115,190 to HIRAI, which issued on September 5, 2000. Applicant notes that this patent was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement;
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,485,315 to NOMURA et al., which issued on January 16, 1996. Applicant notes that this patent was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement; and
- (7) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/039241 A1, which was published on April 4, 2002.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

P23682.A09

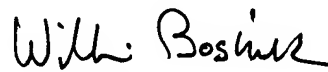
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the materials cited and indicate such consideration by appropriately initialing the enclosed PTO-1449 Form and including a copy of the initialed form in the next official communication.

Applicant notes that a Request for Continued Examination is being submitted herewith. Thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hiroshi NOMURA

William S. Boshnick  
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September 9, 2005  
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FORM PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No. P23682	Application No. 10/646,872
		Applicant Hiroshi NOMURA	
		Filing Date August 25, 2003	Group 2851

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2002	/ 0 3 9 2 4 1	04/04/02	NOMURA et al.			
		5 2 6 8 7 9 4	08/07/92	CHAN			
		4 0 1 2 1 2 4	03/15/77	TODA			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	1	- 1 3 3 0 1 4	05/25/89	JAPAN			
		4 2 2 6 9 6 7	02/18/93	GERMANY			
		2 3 4 6 3 9 8	03/21/74	GERMANY			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1	English Language Abstract of JP 1-133014.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.